

About Washington County, Maine

General Demographics

- County population: 33,941
- Percent of population <18: 25.7%
- Roughly twice the size of Rhode Island
- Entirely rural; Population Density: 13 people per square mile
- Comprised of 47 towns with populations ranging from 10 to 4000.
- 93.5% White
- 0.3% Black or African American
- 4.4 % Native American
- 0.3% Asian
- 1.5% Other
- In 2000, the average household income was \$25,869— the lowest in the state (Maine average \$33,860)
- County unemployment rates are twice the state average: 7.6% for the county compared to 2.3% statewide
- Percent of children living below poverty level: 20.3%
- Percent of children eligible to receive free and reduced lunches: 53.6% (higher than the state average)

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Facts

- Between 2002 and 2003, the rate of youth arrests for liquor law violations increased 24.2%.
- Between 2002 and 2003, arrests for operating under the influence increased 7.7% for adults and 20.9% for juveniles.
- Between 1996-97 and 2000-01, rates of arrest for opiate possession and sales, as well as in-patient treatment rates, increased tenfold.
- In 2002, opiate arrest rates were five times higher and treatment rates were nine times higher in Washington County than in Maine, overall.

National and Local 30-Day Use Rates, 2004

Grade	National Rates* (percent)	Washington County Rates** (percent)
GRADE 10		
Alcohol	39	34
Binge Drinking	22	20
GRADE 12		
Alcohol	48	48
Binge Drinking	29	32

* *Monitoring the Future*; ***Maine Youth Drug and Alcohol Use Survey*

Reported Lifetime Alcohol Use among 11th and 12th Graders, 2004

Substance	Washington County Rates** (percent)
Alcohol	79
Cigarettes	55
Marijuana	46

***Maine Youth Drug and Alcohol Use Survey*